

## Message Text

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PAGE 01      SOFIA 01696 171446Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /021 W  
-----122311 171503Z /53

P R 171332Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
TO USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5116

UNCLAS SOFIA 1696

USDOC FOR BEWT/TDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
AGS: BEXP, BTIO, BU  
SUBJECT: PLANNED DISCUSSIONS WITH GOB MINISTRY OF METALLURGY AND  
MINERAL RESOURCES

REF: A) SOFIA 1521; B) SOFIA 1055; C) SOFIA 1544

1. EMBASSY HAS SCHEDULED MEETING WITH CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF MINISTRY OF METALLUR AND MINERAL RESOURCES EFOR AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 23. INTEND TO INTRODUCE NEWLY ARRIVED EMBASSY ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICER, PAUL HACKER, WHO WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH MINISTRY. WE RECENTLY RECEIVED A SPECIFICATIONS LIST FOR THE TIN PLATED SHEET METAL FACILITY MENTIONED IN PARA 2, REF A, WHICH WAS LONG DELAYED. LIST IS REALLY A CHART WHICH COMAINS INCOMPLETE INFORMATION FOR SUCH A PROJECT. WE HAVE REQUESTED MINISTRY FOR MEETING WITH SPECIALISTS TO OBTAIN CLARIFICATION. WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT THIS MEETING WILL COVER THE FACILITY WHICH MINISTRY HAS NOW ENTITLED "DYNAMO SHEET WORKSHOP". (NOTE: WE HAVE HAD SOME PROBLEMS TRANSLATING TERMINOLOGY ON THIS ITEM, WHICH WAS RAISED BY MINUTER STAMENOV (REF B), BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT HAD DIRECT CONTACT WITH SPECIALISTS.)

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02      SOFIA 01696 171446Z

2. MEETING WILL ALSO SERVE AS AGREED UPON VEHICLE FOR REVIEWING CURRENT STATUS OF MINISTRY EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS LISTS AND RESPONSES OR LACK OF RESPONSES BY AMERICAN FIRMS TO THE REQUIREMENTS CITED BY THE MINISTRY.

3. WE INTEND AGAIN TO REQUEST INFORMAION ON THE CHEMICAL PLANT FOR FERTILIZERS, PER PARA 5, REF C.

4. REQUEST THAT TDAD PROVIDE ANY INPUT FOR THIS MEETING BY OOB AUGUST 23.

5. COMMENT: THE TRADITIONAL JULY-AUGUST VACATION PERIOD HAS SERIOUSLY DELAYED PROGRESS ON THE MINISTRY'S PREPARATION OF EQUIPMENT LISTS, E.G., WE HAVE BEEN REQUESTING THE DYNAMO YET SPECIFICATIONS LIST SINCE THE JULY 24 MEETING AND RECEIVED "POOR" RESPONSE LAST WEEK. SUBSEQUENTLY, WE HAVE REQUESTED MEETING TO REVIEW LIST NEARLY EVERY DAY, BUT MINISTRY FRANKLY INFORMED US THAT THE ONLY SPECIALIST RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS FIELD WAS ON VACATION AND COULD NOT BE LOCATED. BELIEVE FAIR PORTION OF OUR PROBLEM RESULTS FROM FACT THAT MINISTRY'S CHIEF OF PROTOCOL IS ON VACATION UNTIL AUGUST 31.  
GARTHOFF

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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